



Landowner request for NH Natural Heritage Bureau data

The NH Natural Heritage Bureau (NHB) maintains a database of known locations of rare species and exemplary natural communities. Landowners can request a check of the database to find out whether any known locations have been mapped on their property. An agent acting for a landowner can make this request on the landowner's behalf. However, the landowner must be aware of and approve of the request.

If there is a rare species on private property, will NH Natural Heritage know about it? Probably not. Most areas of the state have never been checked for the presence of rare species, and NHB staff only do field surveys on private land with landowner permission. A field survey is the best way to determine the presence of rare species.

What does it mean if NHB *does* have a record on a particular property? It means that a rare species or natural community was once observed in the vicinity and reported to NHB. If suitable habitat is still present, the area may now support a rare species or natural community. To fully understand the significance of a NHB record, however, factors such as the date of the observation and the precision of the location information provided to NHB must be considered. Look for these details in the NHB response, and call NHB (271-2214) with questions regarding plants and natural communities, or NH Fish & Game (271-2461) with questions regarding rare animal species.

Landowner: Name: _____
Mailing address: _____

Phone number: _____
E-mail address: _____

Requested by: Name: _____
Organization: _____
Mailing address: _____

Phone number: _____
E-mail address: _____

Location of the Property: _____ **Town:** _____
Tax Map(s) & Lot #(s): _____

A map must be provided, with the property clearly marked. Acceptable maps include a copy of part of a USGS topographic map (such maps can be printed from the web, e.g., at www.topozone.com) and GIS shapefiles (NH State Plane, NAD 83). Tax maps can **only** be used if they include one or more clearly marked road intersections.

I affirm that the landowner knows that I am making this request and agrees that NHB should release the data.

Name (type or print): _____ **Date:** _____

Requests can be submitted by e-mail, fax, or mail:

E-mail: scairns@dred.state.nh.us
Fax: (603) 271-6488, Attn: Sara Cairns
Mail: Sara Cairns
PO Box 1856
Concord, NH 03302-1856

Requests will usually be processed within 5-10 business days. Results will be returned via e-mail if an e-mail address is provided above, otherwise through the US postal service. Call (603) 271-2215 x 302 with any questions.